WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A method for checking network perimeter security, said method

2   comprising the steps of:

3   reviewing security of a network perimeter architecture;

4   reviewing security of data processing devices that transfer data across the

5   perimeter of the network;

6   reviewing security of applications that transfer data across said perimeter; and

7   reviewing vulnerability of applications or data processing devices within said

8   perimeter from computers or users outside of said perimeter.

1   2.   The method as set forth in claim 1 further comprising the step of

2   reviewing security of data processing devices within said perimeter that authenticate

3   computers or users outside of said perimeter that request to access an application within

4   said perimeter.

1   3.   The method as set forth in claim 1 further comprising the step of

2   reviewing security of data processing devices that authorize computers or users outside of

3   said perimeter that request to access an application within said perimeter.

1   4.   The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the step of reviewing security

2   of said data processing devices comprises the step of reviewing security of a web server,

3   an e-mail server or an FTP server.

1   5.   The method as set forth in claim 1 further comprising the step of

2   reviewing security of a server within said perimeter that provides data to said data

3   processing devices that transfer data across the perimeter of said network.

1   6.   The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein each of said reviews is

2   performed by comparison to a security policy of an enterprise which owns or controls

3   said network.

1   7.   The method as set forth in claim 1 further comprising the step of

2   determining said network perimeter.

1   8.   The method as set forth in claim 7 wherein said network perimeter

2   comprises entries and exits from said network.

1   9.   The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said network perimeter

2   comprises entries and exits from said network.

1   10.   The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the steps of reviewing security

2   of a network perimeter architecture, reviewing security of data processing devices that

3   transfer data across the perimeter of the network, and reviewing vulnerability of

4   applications or data processing devices within said perimeter from entities outside of said

5   perimeter are performed at least in part with a respective program tool.

1   11.   The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the step of reviewing security

2   of said data processing devices comprises the step of reviewing security of data

3   processing devices accessed by users outside of said perimeter.